

POLICY MANUAL

State Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services Board Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services

POLICY 1013(SYS)86-19 Facility and Community Alcohol and Other Drug Services

Authority

Board Minutes Dated October 22, 1986

Effective Date November 19, 1986

Approved by Board Chairman s/James C. Windsor

References

§§ 37.1-10, 37.1-194, and 37-203 through 37.1-223, *Code of Virginia* (1950) as amended.

House Joint Resolution 85, 1986, and Senate Document 22, 1986.

State Board Policy 1021(SYS)87-9.

Core Services Taxonomy, V, February 5, 1993.

Background

Alcohol and drug problems:

- are pervasive in Virginia,
- result in death and injury, and
- occur with a frequency in all populations that requires constant vigilance and concerted action.

The Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services, its facilities, and community services boards are charged in the Code of Virginia with the responsibility to provide a comprehensive system of substance abuse services.

This responsibility was further confirmed by referenced HJR 85 which establishes a General Assembly goal for the development of a comprehensive community-based system for serving citizens with problems of mental illness, mental retardation or substance abuse.

Purpose

To establish the State Board's position with regard to alcohol and other drug services in the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services and in the development of a cooperative network of services provided by State facilities and community services boards.

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**Policy for
Department**

It is the policy of the State Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services Board that:

- The Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services shall provide leadership and program development assistance as necessary to plan, establish and support prevention, treatment and rehabilitation, training, research and evaluation efforts directed toward reducing the negative impacts of alcohol and other drug abuse;
- The Department shall take action to promote the integration of service delivery to persons who abuse alcohol and other drugs;
- The Department shall take action to promote the coordination of the services of state facilities and CSBs in serving persons who abuse alcohol and other drugs; and
- The Department shall make every effort to include consumers in the planning, implementation, and evaluation of services for persons who abuse alcohol and other drugs.

**Policy for State
Facilities**

It is the policy of the State Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services Board that:

- State facilities shall serve persons eligible for admission regardless of past or current alcohol and/or other drug usage.
- Each facility shall conduct a comprehensive assessment of alcohol or other drug usage on each person admitted, determine relationships of such usage, if present, to current condition, and
- Initiate services that incorporate appropriate counseling, education and motivation to participate in community-based alcohol and other drug treatment following discharge.

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**Policy for
CSBs**

It is the policy of the State Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services Board that:

- Community services boards shall establish and maintain an ongoing comprehensive system of services for persons who abuse alcohol and other drugs and those at risk of alcohol and other drug abuse.
- This comprehensive system of services shall be enhanced clinically and administratively through community services board allocation of resources, planning, and local/state advocacy.
- The community services board, itself, should take an active role in local advocacy for program development and accessing services for persons who abuse alcohol and other drugs and those at risk of alcohol and other drug abuse.

**Policy
Implementation**

It is the policy of the State Board that the Department has responsibility for implementation of this policy. The Department shall, in conjunction with State facilities and community services boards, ensure the development and refinement of a cooperative network of services for persons who abuse alcohol and other drugs.

**Monitoring of
this Policy**

The Commissioner shall assign a staff coordinator who will develop a plan for implementation, monitoring and evaluation of this policy.
